

SELECT STORY.

THE SHADOW OF DANHAM.

It looked desolate enough, certainly, all the more for being so totally out of character with the surroundings. The smooth terraces and well-kept lawns, the trim garden and carefully-clipped hedges of gravel and yew, the yellow gravel and the green turf, were in perfect English order. The massive elms, trees three long and thickening shadows on the grass; the ivy, in tangled masses, twisted up the ancient brickwork, and waved its banners from the gables; climbing roses and jasmine festooned the mulioned windows, and scented the summer air; while the housekeeper, in a smiling, pleasant, and over the whole fair and peaceful scene. But, strangely out of keeping with the surrounding order, strangely inharmonious with the beauty of the rest of Danham, were the three rudely bricked-up windows which defaced the southern front.

They were a gay and thoughtless party, who were exploring the home and grounds of Danham on that sunny August day. From the terrace on the roof to the dungeon in the basement, they had ransacked the ancient manor, and explored the old housekeeper had showed them with questions and explanations; they had wondered and admired their utmost, and at last believed there was nothing more to see.

"Stay," said a young man, one of the party, as they were preparing to depart. "We were forgetting—there was a ghost."

"What ghost? What a haunted room? Surely a house like this must possess a ghost."

The housekeeper did not answer at once. "You think there must be a skeleton in every house then, sir?" she said, at last.

"In a house so old and with such a history as this, I should say certainly; some forsaken maiden in white garments, or some criminal in clanking chains. And now I remember—what is the secret of those bricked-up windows we saw from the south garden?"

The housekeeper hesitated. It was plain there was something to reveal.

"I know it," he said. "We must see the place and hear the story; the more terrible the better. Pray let us have it—I love horrors."

He was young, handsome, and gay, and was dressed in the height of the fashion; evidently a man of the world, whose acquaintance with horrors was of the slightest. A young lady, a fitting pendant to himself, and to whom he had kept particularly close all day, shook her glossy ringlets and echoed his words.

"Pray, madam," she said, winningly, "do not disappoint us. If we have seen all the places we desire it, as to show us the haunted room, and tell us the story of the ghost?"

But the housekeeper looked grave. "There is no ghost, madam," she said. "There is no love-lorn damsel, and there has never been a chain clanked at Danham, that I heard of."

"But you cannot deny that there is some story connected with those windows?" said the gentleman again.

"The windows belong to the old banqueting-hall, and there is a story, certainly, but Sir Lionel does not much like to have the door opened or the story told."

"If it be forbidden, of course we cannot urge it," said the young lady, gracefully. "I am sorry, but there is no more to be said."

"It is said the house-keeper, touched, perhaps, by the look of disappointment that shadowed the pretty, young man, and, if you very much desire it, I will open the door. But I warn you there is nothing to see."

Of course, no one believed her assertion, and all followed her eagerly to the chamber of dread. She led them through a long corridor lighted from above, and left them for a few moments to procure the key, which was not, like those of other rooms, on the ring she carried in her hand, while they waited her return, in a delightful tremor outside the door.

It was a heavy paneled door of oak, black with age, and, like the oak-work of the gallery, highly ornamented and carved. One of the bolder spirits of the party tried the lock, but it was firm and unyielding; and the pretty young girl laid her ear against it, and pretended to listen, and in this attitude she was caught by the returning house-keeper, and gathered herself up with a laugh and a blush.

"There is neither sight nor sound," said the old lady, smiling. "No step or voice has echoed in that room for many a long year, and, except when this door is opened, it is never visited by a ray of light."

She unlocked the door. The key turned hard in the rusty lock, and the door swung open, and, as the key turned, the heavy door swung back. With a kind of little shiver the pleasure-party shrank close together, and, pressing forward, looked over each other's shoulders into the room, and saw—nothing.

"Darkness there and nothing more!" The room was as dark as the night, with only a few rays of light from the heavy door swung back. With a kind of little shiver the pleasure-party shrank close together, and, pressing forward, looked over each other's shoulders into the room, and saw—nothing.

"Darkness there and nothing more!" The room was as dark as the night, with only a few rays of light from the heavy door swung back. With a kind of little shiver the pleasure-party shrank close together, and, pressing forward, looked over each other's shoulders into the room, and saw—nothing.

"Darkness there and nothing more!" The room was as dark as the night, with only a few rays of light from the heavy door swung back. With a kind of little shiver the pleasure-party shrank close together, and, pressing forward, looked over each other's shoulders into the room, and saw—nothing.

"Darkness there and nothing more!" The room was as dark as the night, with only a few rays of light from the heavy door swung back. With a kind of little shiver the pleasure-party shrank close together, and, pressing forward, looked over each other's shoulders into the room, and saw—nothing.

"Darkness there and nothing more!" The room was as dark as the night, with only a few rays of light from the heavy door swung back. With a kind of little shiver the pleasure-party shrank close together, and, pressing forward, looked over each other's shoulders into the room, and saw—nothing.

"Darkness there and nothing more!" The room was as dark as the night, with only a few rays of light from the heavy door swung back. With a kind of little shiver the pleasure-party shrank close together, and, pressing forward, looked over each other's shoulders into the room, and saw—nothing.

"Darkness there and nothing more!" The room was as dark as the night, with only a few rays of light from the heavy door swung back. With a kind of little shiver the pleasure-party shrank close together, and, pressing forward, looked over each other's shoulders into the room, and saw—nothing.

"Darkness there and nothing more!" The room was as dark as the night, with only a few rays of light from the heavy door swung back. With a kind of little shiver the pleasure-party shrank close together, and, pressing forward, looked over each other's shoulders into the room, and saw—nothing.

"Darkness there and nothing more!" The room was as dark as the night, with only a few rays of light from the heavy door swung back. With a kind of little shiver the pleasure-party shrank close together, and, pressing forward, looked over each other's shoulders into the room, and saw—nothing.

"Darkness there and nothing more!" The room was as dark as the night, with only a few rays of light from the heavy door swung back. With a kind of little shiver the pleasure-party shrank close together, and, pressing forward, looked over each other's shoulders into the room, and saw—nothing.

"Darkness there and nothing more!" The room was as dark as the night, with only a few rays of light from the heavy door swung back. With a kind of little shiver the pleasure-party shrank close together, and, pressing forward, looked over each other's shoulders into the room, and saw—nothing.

VOLUME I.

partly left untold, may here be given in a more connected form.

During the reign of King Charles II., and when the gayety and mirth of the merry monarch, were at the greatest height, one of the ladies who attracted the favorable notice was Serena Curtis. That she did so, is sufficient guarantee for her possession of personal charms of no mean order, and also a considerable share of what was then called wit; but besides these two necessary qualifications for a court life, Miss Curtis was also possessed of a fair amount of discretion and good sense—qualities which, in those days, and in that place, were by no means so common as they should have been.

She lived under the protection of the Duchess of York, whose maid-of-honor she was believed to be, and had been held so pleased; but her brother, her only relative, who filled some slight office in the duke's household, had never suffered her to entertain the idea. In those days, when luxury in religion amounted to license, Ralph Curtis, though no ascetic, passed his days in a long way off—it was in a sequestered, retaining even some of the modes of thought and expression now gone out of fashion with those who had introduced them; and the stern morality implanted in his boyhood by the preachers of the Commonwealth could not well tolerate the manner of life which he was leading. He was a devoted adherent of the Stuart cause, and a faithful servant of the king, he had not the least desire that his sister should, in that respect, follow his example.

So Serena Curtis lived, in general, a quiet life, and seldom mixing in the gayeties of the court, perhaps for that very reason attracted the more admiration when she appeared there. Suitors might have been more plentiful but for one serious disadvantage. Ralph Curtis and his sister were very poor, for their father had spent his wealth, as he had his life, in the Stuart cause. Had their hands been only confiscated, it would have cost the king little to restore them from the present to the former owner; but they had been lawfully sold, and the money lavished as freely as the blood on the battle-field. The king's bounty was not so ready as his sword, and what had been bestowed on the first Charles had never been returned by the second. The brother's place at court, and the small pension on which the sister lived, were all they had to depend on, and it was therefore impossible that Miss Curtis could give a fortune with her hand.

But youth, when love comes, seldom pauses to consider ways and means, or to reflect whether an alliance be desirable in a practical point of view. Miss Curtis found no exception to the rule, and, before any one was aware of it, she had accepted and accepted a heart, and given her own in exchange, in entirely the wrong place.

When this came to Ralph's knowledge he was very indignant, and at once declared that the marriage should never be permitted. In the first place, the young man, though professing a Protestant, was obviously of no religion at all; he was known to be of especially loose life even among those who were not so fastidious, and he was a shameless gallantry, were things of every-day occurrence; and (though this last objection could have been easily remedied) he had no fortune but his sword. Had the match been a suitable one, or agreeable to his own wishes, Ralph possessed sufficient fortune to have provided for the fortunes of his sister's lover; the duke's favor once bespoken, a place at court, or a regiment, would have afforded provision for a young couple with whom mutual affection might be supposed to supply the place of ampler means; but, as it was, Ralph chose to exert his power as the father of the bride, and to give the young man a lesson in his own power, and through him represented to the king how much it was to be regretted that the daughter of his old and faithful servant, a young lady of so much beauty and merit, and so well deserving of a better lot, should be thrown away on a dissipated creature.

But youth, when love comes, seldom pauses to consider ways and means, or to reflect whether an alliance be desirable in a practical point of view. Miss Curtis found no exception to the rule, and, before any one was aware of it, she had accepted and accepted a heart, and given her own in exchange, in entirely the wrong place.

When this came to Ralph's knowledge he was very indignant, and at once declared that the marriage should never be permitted. In the first place, the young man, though professing a Protestant, was obviously of no religion at all; he was known to be of especially loose life even among those who were not so fastidious, and he was a shameless gallantry, were things of every-day occurrence; and (though this last objection could have been easily remedied) he had no fortune but his sword. Had the match been a suitable one, or agreeable to his own wishes, Ralph possessed sufficient fortune to have provided for the fortunes of his sister's lover; the duke's favor once bespoken, a place at court, or a regiment, would have afforded provision for a young couple with whom mutual affection might be supposed to supply the place of ampler means; but, as it was, Ralph chose to exert his power as the father of the bride, and to give the young man a lesson in his own power, and through him represented to the king how much it was to be regretted that the daughter of his old and faithful servant, a young lady of so much beauty and merit, and so well deserving of a better lot, should be thrown away on a dissipated creature.

But youth, when love comes, seldom pauses to consider ways and means, or to reflect whether an alliance be desirable in a practical point of view. Miss Curtis found no exception to the rule, and, before any one was aware of it, she had accepted and accepted a heart, and given her own in exchange, in entirely the wrong place.

When this came to Ralph's knowledge he was very indignant, and at once declared that the marriage should never be permitted. In the first place, the young man, though professing a Protestant, was obviously of no religion at all; he was known to be of especially loose life even among those who were not so fastidious, and he was a shameless gallantry, were things of every-day occurrence; and (though this last objection could have been easily remedied) he had no fortune but his sword. Had the match been a suitable one, or agreeable to his own wishes, Ralph possessed sufficient fortune to have provided for the fortunes of his sister's lover; the duke's favor once bespoken, a place at court, or a regiment, would have afforded provision for a young couple with whom mutual affection might be supposed to supply the place of ampler means; but, as it was, Ralph chose to exert his power as the father of the bride, and to give the young man a lesson in his own power, and through him represented to the king how much it was to be regretted that the daughter of his old and faithful servant, a young lady of so much beauty and merit, and so well deserving of a better lot, should be thrown away on a dissipated creature.

But youth, when love comes, seldom pauses to consider ways and means, or to reflect whether an alliance be desirable in a practical point of view. Miss Curtis found no exception to the rule, and, before any one was aware of it, she had accepted and accepted a heart, and given her own in exchange, in entirely the wrong place.

When this came to Ralph's knowledge he was very indignant, and at once declared that the marriage should never be permitted. In the first place, the young man, though professing a Protestant, was obviously of no religion at all; he was known to be of especially loose life even among those who were not so fastidious, and he was a shameless gallantry, were things of every-day occurrence; and (though this last objection could have been easily remedied) he had no fortune but his sword. Had the match been a suitable one, or agreeable to his own wishes, Ralph possessed sufficient fortune to have provided for the fortunes of his sister's lover; the duke's favor once bespoken, a place at court, or a regiment, would have afforded provision for a young couple with whom mutual affection might be supposed to supply the place of ampler means; but, as it was, Ralph chose to exert his power as the father of the bride, and to give the young man a lesson in his own power, and through him represented to the king how much it was to be regretted that the daughter of his old and faithful servant, a young lady of so much beauty and merit, and so well deserving of a better lot, should be thrown away on a dissipated creature.

But youth, when love comes, seldom pauses to consider ways and means, or to reflect whether an alliance be desirable in a practical point of view. Miss Curtis found no exception to the rule, and, before any one was aware of it, she had accepted and accepted a heart, and given her own in exchange, in entirely the wrong place.

When this came to Ralph's knowledge he was very indignant, and at once declared that the marriage should never be permitted. In the first place, the young man, though professing a Protestant, was obviously of no religion at all; he was known to be of especially loose life even among those who were not so fastidious, and he was a shameless gallantry, were things of every-day occurrence; and (though this last objection could have been easily remedied) he had no fortune but his sword. Had the match been a suitable one, or agreeable to his own wishes, Ralph possessed sufficient fortune to have provided for the fortunes of his sister's lover; the duke's favor once bespoken, a place at court, or a regiment, would have afforded provision for a young couple with whom mutual affection might be supposed to supply the place of ampler means; but, as it was, Ralph chose to exert his power as the father of the bride, and to give the young man a lesson in his own power, and through him represented to the king how much it was to be regretted that the daughter of his old and faithful servant, a young lady of so much beauty and merit, and so well deserving of a better lot, should be thrown away on a dissipated creature.

But youth, when love comes, seldom pauses to consider ways and means, or to reflect whether an alliance be desirable in a practical point of view. Miss Curtis found no exception to the rule, and, before any one was aware of it, she had accepted and accepted a heart, and given her own in exchange, in entirely the wrong place.

When this came to Ralph's knowledge he was very indignant, and at once declared that the marriage should never be permitted. In the first place, the young man, though professing a Protestant, was obviously of no religion at all; he was known to be of especially loose life even among those who were not so fastidious, and he was a shameless gallantry, were things of every-day occurrence; and (though this last objection could have been easily remedied) he had no fortune but his sword. Had the match been a suitable one, or agreeable to his own wishes, Ralph possessed sufficient fortune to have provided for the fortunes of his sister's lover; the duke's favor once bespoken, a place at court, or a regiment, would have afforded provision for a young couple with whom mutual affection might be supposed to supply the place of ampler means; but, as it was, Ralph chose to exert his power as the father of the bride, and to give the young man a lesson in his own power, and through him represented to the king how much it was to be regretted that the daughter of his old and faithful servant, a young lady of so much beauty and merit, and so well deserving of a better lot, should be thrown away on a dissipated creature.

But youth, when love comes, seldom pauses to consider ways and means, or to reflect whether an alliance be desirable in a practical point of view. Miss Curtis found no exception to the rule, and, before any one was aware of it, she had accepted and accepted a heart, and given her own in exchange, in entirely the wrong place.

When this came to Ralph's knowledge he was very indignant, and at once declared that the marriage should never be permitted. In the first place, the young man, though professing a Protestant, was obviously of no religion at all; he was known to be of especially loose life even among those who were not so fastidious, and he was a shameless gallantry, were things of every-day occurrence; and (though this last objection could have been easily remedied) he had no fortune but his sword. Had the match been a suitable one, or agreeable to his own wishes, Ralph possessed sufficient fortune to have provided for the fortunes of his sister's lover; the duke's favor once bespoken, a place at court, or a regiment, would have afforded provision for a young couple with whom mutual affection might be supposed to supply the place of ampler means; but, as it was, Ralph chose to exert his power as the father of the bride, and to give the young man a lesson in his own power, and through him represented to the king how much it was to be regretted that the daughter of his old and faithful servant, a young lady of so much beauty and merit, and so well deserving of a better lot, should be thrown away on a dissipated creature.

But youth, when love comes, seldom pauses to consider ways and means, or to reflect whether an alliance be desirable in a practical point of view. Miss Curtis found no exception to the rule, and, before any one was aware of it, she had accepted and accepted a heart, and given her own in exchange, in entirely the wrong place.

When this came to Ralph's knowledge he was very indignant, and at once declared that the marriage should never be permitted. In the first place, the young man, though professing a Protestant, was obviously of no religion at all; he was known to be of especially loose life even among those who were not so fastidious, and he was a shameless gallantry, were things of every-day occurrence; and (though this last objection could have been easily remedied) he had no fortune but his sword. Had the match been a suitable one, or agreeable to his own wishes, Ralph possessed sufficient fortune to have provided for the fortunes of his sister's lover; the duke's favor once bespoken, a place at court, or a regiment, would have afforded provision for a young couple with whom mutual affection might be supposed to supply the place of ampler means; but, as it was, Ralph chose to exert his power as the father of the bride, and to give the young man a lesson in his own power, and through him represented to the king how much it was to be regretted that the daughter of his old and faithful servant, a young lady of so much beauty and merit, and so well deserving of a better lot, should be thrown away on a dissipated creature.

But youth, when love comes, seldom pauses to consider ways and means, or to reflect whether an alliance be desirable in a practical point of view. Miss Curtis found no exception to the rule, and, before any one was aware of it, she had accepted and accepted a heart, and given her own in exchange, in entirely the wrong place.

When this came to Ralph's knowledge he was very indignant, and at once declared that the marriage should never be permitted. In the first place, the young man, though professing a Protestant, was obviously of no religion at all; he was known to be of especially loose life even among those who were not so fastidious, and he was a shameless gallantry, were things of every-day occurrence; and (though this last objection could have been easily remedied) he had no fortune but his sword. Had the match been a suitable one, or agreeable to his own wishes, Ralph possessed sufficient fortune to have provided for the fortunes of his sister's lover; the duke's favor once bespoken, a place at court, or a regiment, would have afforded provision for a young couple with whom mutual affection might be supposed to supply the place of ampler means; but, as it was, Ralph chose to exert his power as the father of the bride, and to give the young man a lesson in his own power, and through him represented to the king how much it was to be regretted that the daughter of his old and faithful servant, a young lady of so much beauty and merit, and so well deserving of a better lot, should be thrown away on a dissipated creature.

But youth, when love comes, seldom pauses to consider ways and means, or to reflect whether an alliance be desirable in a practical point of view. Miss Curtis found no exception to the rule, and, before any one was aware of it, she had accepted and accepted a heart, and given her own in exchange, in entirely the wrong place.

The Somerset Press.

SOMERSET, OHIO: FRIDAY, DECEMBER 5, 1873.

NUMBER 34.

with his brother-in-law, whose opinions were directly opposed to his own; and so Serena and her brother drifted apart upon the stream of life, and she felt the separation keenly. Then, though she had never shared to any great extent in the frivolities of the court, she had lived in its atmosphere, and the utter seclusion of her country-home preyed upon her health and spirits. She ought to have been happy. Reason says yes, but fact says no. Many have been virtuous, but none have ever been or can be happy because they ought. Serena dropped; and, when she had been ten years Lady Danham, and was twenty-nine years old, she possessed little of the beauty, and none of the vivacity, which had been hers at nineteen.

The kind Providence sent her another child, and on this infant were poured forth all the treasures of affection which for so long had no outlet. What to her mattered now disturbances in politics or differences in religion? Was not the child always the same? What cared she for the growing discontent of the nation with the court and its ways? What cared she for the coming of the home and the flight of her baby's smiles? What was it to her that public confidence was shaken, while little Lionel took his first steps in safety? What signified the license of the rich and the misery of the poor, while the young lord of the manor was so happy?

So Ralph was congratulating himself on the success of his endeavors and his sister's docility, when he found that, in a long way off—it was in a sequestered, retaining even some of the modes of thought and expression now gone out of fashion with those who had introduced them; and the stern morality implanted in his boyhood by the preachers of the Commonwealth could not well tolerate the manner of life which he was leading. He was a devoted adherent of the Stuart cause, and a faithful servant of the king, he had not the least desire that his sister should, in that respect, follow his example.

So Serena Curtis lived, in general, a quiet life, and seldom mixing in the gayeties of the court, perhaps for that very reason attracted the more admiration when she appeared there. Suitors might have been more plentiful but for one serious disadvantage. Ralph Curtis and his sister were very poor, for their father had spent his wealth, as he had his life, in the Stuart cause. Had their hands been only confiscated, it would have cost the king little to restore them from the present to the former owner; but they had been lawfully sold, and the money lavished as freely as the blood on the battle-field.

The king's bounty was not so ready as his sword, and what had been bestowed on the first Charles had never been returned by the second. The brother's place at court, and the small pension on which the sister lived, were all they had to depend on, and it was therefore impossible that Miss Curtis could give a fortune with her hand.

But youth, when love comes, seldom pauses to consider ways and means, or to reflect whether an alliance be desirable in a practical point of view. Miss Curtis found no exception to the rule, and, before any one was aware of it, she had accepted and accepted a heart, and given her own in exchange, in entirely the wrong place.

When this came to Ralph's knowledge he was very indignant, and at once declared that the marriage should never be permitted. In the first place, the young man, though professing a Protestant, was obviously of no religion at all; he was known to be of especially loose life even among those who were not so fastidious, and he was a shameless gallantry, were things of every-day occurrence; and (though this last objection could have been easily remedied) he had no fortune but his sword. Had the match been a suitable one, or agreeable to his own wishes, Ralph possessed sufficient fortune to have provided for the fortunes of his sister's lover; the duke's favor once bespoken, a place at court, or a regiment, would have afforded provision for a young couple with whom mutual affection might be supposed to supply the place of ampler means; but, as it was, Ralph chose to exert his power as the father of the bride, and to give the young man a lesson in his own power, and through him represented to the king how much it was to be regretted that the daughter of his old and faithful servant, a young lady of so much beauty and merit, and so well deserving of a better lot, should be thrown away on a dissipated creature.

But youth, when love comes, seldom pauses to consider ways and means, or to reflect whether an alliance be desirable in a practical point of view. Miss Curtis found no exception to the rule, and, before any one was aware of it, she had accepted and accepted a heart, and given her own in exchange, in entirely the wrong place.

When this came to Ralph's knowledge he was very indignant, and at once declared that the marriage should never be permitted. In the first place, the young man, though professing a Protestant, was obviously of no religion at all; he was known to be of especially loose life even among those who were not so fastidious, and he was a shameless gallantry, were things of every-day occurrence; and (though this last objection could have been easily remedied) he had no fortune but his sword. Had the match been a suitable one, or agreeable to his own wishes, Ralph possessed sufficient fortune to have provided for the fortunes of his sister's lover; the duke's favor once bespoken, a place at court, or a regiment, would have afforded provision for a young couple with whom mutual affection might be supposed to supply the place of ampler means; but, as it was, Ralph chose to exert his power as the father of the bride, and to give the young man a lesson in his own power, and through him represented to the king how much it was to be regretted that the daughter of his old and faithful servant, a young lady of so much beauty and merit, and so well deserving of a better lot, should be thrown away on a dissipated creature.

But youth, when love comes, seldom pauses to consider ways and means, or to reflect whether an alliance be desirable in a practical point of view. Miss Curtis found no exception to the rule, and, before any one was aware of it, she had accepted and accepted a heart, and given her own in exchange, in entirely the wrong place.

When this came to Ralph's knowledge he was very indignant, and at once declared that the marriage should never be permitted. In the first place, the young man, though professing a Protestant, was obviously of no religion at all; he was known to be of especially loose life even among those who were not so fastidious, and he was a shameless gallantry, were things of every-day occurrence; and (though this last objection could have been easily remedied) he had no fortune but his sword. Had the match been a suitable one, or agreeable to his own wishes, Ralph possessed sufficient fortune to have provided for the fortunes of his sister's lover; the duke's favor once bespoken, a place at court, or a regiment, would have afforded provision for a young couple with whom mutual affection might be supposed to supply the place of ampler means; but, as it was, Ralph chose to exert his power as the father of the bride, and to give the young man a lesson in his own power, and through him represented to the king how much it was to be regretted that the daughter of his old and faithful servant, a young lady of so much beauty and merit, and so well deserving of a better lot, should be thrown away on a dissipated creature.

But youth, when love comes, seldom pauses to consider ways and means, or to reflect whether an alliance be desirable in a practical point of view. Miss Curtis found no exception to the rule, and, before any one was aware of it, she had accepted and accepted a heart, and given her own in exchange, in entirely the wrong place.

When this came to Ralph's knowledge he was very indignant, and at once declared that the marriage should never be permitted. In the first place, the young man, though professing a Protestant, was obviously of no religion at all; he was known to be of especially loose life even among those who were not so fastidious, and he was a shameless gallantry, were things of every-day occurrence; and (though this last objection could have been easily remedied) he had no fortune but his sword. Had the match been a suitable one, or agreeable to his own wishes, Ralph possessed sufficient fortune to have provided for the fortunes of his sister's lover; the duke's favor once bespoken, a place at court, or a regiment, would have afforded provision for a young couple with whom mutual affection might be supposed to supply the place of ampler means; but, as it was, Ralph chose to exert his power as the father of the bride, and to give the young man a lesson in his own power, and through him represented to the king how much it was to be regretted that the daughter of his old and faithful servant, a young lady of so much beauty and merit, and so well deserving of a better lot, should be thrown away on a dissipated creature.

But youth, when love comes, seldom pauses to consider ways and means, or to reflect whether an alliance be desirable in a practical point of view. Miss Curtis found no exception to the rule, and, before any one was aware of it, she had accepted and accepted a heart, and given her own in exchange, in entirely the wrong place.

When this came to Ralph's knowledge he was very indignant, and at once declared that the marriage should never be permitted. In the first place, the young man, though professing a Protestant, was obviously of no religion at all; he was known to be of especially loose life even among those who were not so fastidious, and he was a shameless gallantry, were things of every-day occurrence; and (though this last objection could have been easily remedied) he had no fortune but his sword. Had the match been a suitable one, or agreeable to his own wishes, Ralph possessed sufficient fortune to have provided for the fortunes of his sister's lover; the duke's favor once bespoken, a place at court, or a regiment, would have afforded provision for a young couple with whom mutual affection might be supposed to supply the place of ampler means; but, as it was, Ralph chose to exert his power as the father of the bride, and to give the young man a lesson in his own power, and through him represented to the king how much it was to be regretted that the daughter of his old and faithful servant, a young lady of so much beauty and merit, and so well deserving of a better lot, should be thrown away on a dissipated creature.

But youth, when love comes, seldom pauses to consider ways and means, or to reflect whether an alliance be desirable in a practical point of view. Miss Curtis found no exception to the rule, and, before any one was aware of it, she had accepted and accepted a heart, and given her own in exchange, in entirely the wrong place.

When this came to Ralph's knowledge he was very indignant, and at once declared that the marriage should never be permitted. In the first place, the young man, though professing a Protestant, was obviously of no religion at all; he was known to be of especially loose life even among those who were not so fastidious, and he was a shameless gallantry, were things of every-day occurrence; and (though this last objection could have been easily remedied) he had no fortune but his sword. Had the match been a suitable one, or agreeable to his own wishes, Ralph possessed sufficient fortune to have provided for the fortunes of his sister's lover; the duke's favor once bespoken, a place at court, or a regiment, would have afforded provision for a young couple with whom mutual affection might be supposed to supply the place of ampler means; but, as it was, Ralph chose to exert his power as the father of the bride, and to give the young man a lesson in his own power, and through him represented to the king how much it was to be regretted that the daughter of his old and faithful servant, a young lady of so much beauty and merit, and so well deserving of a better lot, should be thrown away on a dissipated creature.

But youth, when love comes, seldom pauses to consider ways and means, or to reflect whether an alliance be desirable in a practical point of view. Miss Curtis found no exception to the rule, and, before any one was aware of it, she had accepted and accepted a heart, and given her own in exchange, in entirely the wrong place.

When this came to Ralph's knowledge he was very indignant, and at once declared that the marriage should never be permitted. In the first place, the young man, though professing a Protestant, was obviously of no religion at all; he was known to be of especially loose life even among those who were not so fastidious, and he was a shameless gallantry, were things of every-day occurrence; and (though this last objection could have been easily remedied) he had no fortune but his sword. Had the match been a suitable one, or agreeable to his own wishes, Ralph possessed sufficient fortune to have provided for the fortunes of his sister's lover; the duke's favor once bespoken, a place at court, or a regiment, would have afforded provision for a young couple with whom mutual affection might be supposed to supply the place of ampler means; but, as it was, Ralph chose to exert his power as the father of the bride, and to give the young man a lesson in his own power, and through him represented to the king how much it was to be regretted that the daughter of his old and faithful servant, a young lady of so much beauty and merit, and so well deserving of a better lot, should be thrown away on a dissipated creature.

But youth, when love comes, seldom pauses to consider ways and means, or to reflect whether an alliance be desirable in a practical point of view. Miss Curtis found no exception to the rule, and, before any one was aware of it, she had accepted and accepted a heart, and given her own in exchange, in entirely the wrong place.

When this came to Ralph's knowledge he was very indignant, and at once declared that the marriage should never be permitted. In the first place, the young man, though professing a Protestant, was obviously of no religion at all; he was known to be of especially loose life even among those who were not so fastidious, and he was a shameless gallantry, were things of every-day occurrence; and (though this last objection could have been easily remedied) he had no fortune but his sword. Had the match been a suitable one, or agreeable to his own wishes, Ralph possessed sufficient fortune to have provided for the fortunes of his sister's lover; the duke's favor once bespoken, a place at court, or a regiment, would have afforded provision for a young couple with whom mutual affection might be supposed to supply the place of ampler means; but, as it was, Ralph chose to exert his power as the father of the bride, and to give the young man a lesson in his own power, and through him represented to the king how much it was to be regretted that the daughter of his old and faithful servant, a young lady of so much beauty and merit, and so well deserving of a better lot, should be thrown away on a dissipated creature.

But youth, when love comes, seldom pauses to consider ways and means, or to reflect whether an alliance be desirable in a practical point of view. Miss Curtis found no exception to the rule, and, before any one was aware of it, she had accepted and accepted a heart, and given her own in exchange, in entirely the wrong place.

When this came to Ralph's knowledge he was very indignant, and at once declared that the marriage should never be permitted. In the first place, the young man, though professing a Protestant, was obviously of no religion at all; he was known to be of especially loose life even among those who were not so fastidious, and he was a shameless gallantry, were things of every-day occurrence; and (though this last objection could have been easily remedied) he had no fortune but his sword. Had the match been a suitable one, or agreeable to his own wishes, Ralph possessed sufficient fortune to have provided for the fortunes of his sister's lover; the duke's favor once bespoken, a place at court, or a regiment, would have afforded provision for a young couple with whom mutual affection might be supposed to supply the place of ampler means; but, as it was, Ralph chose to exert his power as the father of the bride, and to give the young man a lesson in his own power, and through him represented to the king how much it was to be regretted that the daughter of his old and faithful servant, a young lady of so much beauty and merit, and so well deserving of a better lot, should be thrown away on a dissipated creature.

But youth, when love comes, seldom pauses to consider ways and means, or to reflect whether an alliance be desirable in a practical point of view. Miss Curtis found no exception to the rule, and, before any one was aware of it, she had accepted and accepted a heart, and given her own in exchange, in entirely the wrong place.

When this came to Ralph's knowledge he was very indignant, and at once declared that the marriage should never be permitted. In the first place, the young man, though professing a Protestant, was obviously of no religion at all; he was known to be of especially loose life even among those who were not so fastidious, and he was a shameless gallantry, were things of every-day occurrence; and (though this last objection could have been easily remedied) he had no fortune but his sword. Had the match been a suitable one, or agreeable to his own wishes, Ralph possessed sufficient fortune to have provided for the fortunes of his sister's lover; the duke's favor once bespoken, a place at court, or a regiment, would have afforded provision for a young couple with whom mutual affection might be supposed to supply the place of ampler means; but, as it was, Ralph chose to exert his power as the father of the bride, and to give the young man a lesson in his own power, and through him represented to the king how much it was to be regretted that the daughter of his old and faithful servant, a young lady of so much beauty and merit, and so well deserving of a better lot, should be thrown away on a dissipated creature.

agreement, he never confessed. The refugees departed, and were seen no more. The moon had just risen when Lady